

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(i), please substitute the following claims for pending claims of the same number.

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1 1. (Once Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface with a channel
3 extending from the housing; and
4 a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a source-backing
5 surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the
6 source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the channel form an aperture
7 for receiving an edge of a source to be scanned.

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1 12. (Once Amended) The assembly of claim 5, wherein the slot is
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on
3 the channel wherein information to be scanned is aligned with at least a portion of a
4 platen.

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.1 14. (Once Amended) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the width of a
2 first end of the channel proximal to a front panel of the housing increases over that
3 portion of the channel that extends beyond the platen.

1 16. (Once Amended) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 means for optically scanning image data; and
3 means for forming an aperture configured to closely receive a leading edge of
4 the source, such that the source can be spatially arranged with the means for optically
5 scanning without adjusting the aperture, the source being supported along a second
6 edge of said source as the source is received in the aperture and during a scanning
7 operation.

1 17. (Once Amended) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means
2 for forming an aperture comprises a channel.

1 18. (Once Amended) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means
2 for forming an aperture comprises a flap having a slot.

1 19. (Once Amended) The assembly of claim 16, wherein the means
2 for forming an aperture comprises a first inclined surface associated with a housing
3 and a second inclined surface associated with a flap.

1 20. (Once Amended) A method for saving space on a desktop,
2 comprising:
3 providing an optical scanner having a housing, the housing having a
4 substantially vertical source-contact surface with a channel extending from the
5 housing, the vertical source-contact surface including a transparent platen portion, the
6 channel adjacent to a lower edge of the transparent platen; and
7 providing a flap coupled to the source-contact surface, the flap having a
8 source-backing surface substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the
9 housing, wherein the source-contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the
10 channel form an aperture for receiving an edge of a source to be scanned.

1 21. (Once Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising:
2 inserting a leading edge of a source to be scanned into the aperture formed by
3 the source-contact surface, the flap, and the channel such that the source is supported
4 along a second edge by the channel.

1 23. (Once Amended) The method of claim 22, further comprising:
2 enabling the optical scanner to scan the source.

1 26. (Newly Added) A space-saving scanner assembly, comprising:
2 a housing having a substantially vertical source-contact surface;
3 a channel extending from the housing; and
4 a flap coupled to the housing, the flap having a source-backing surface
5 substantially parallel to the source-contact surface of the housing, wherein the source-
6 contact surface, the source-backing surface, and the channel form an aperture for
7 receiving an edge of a source to be scanned without necessitating relative movement
8 between the flap and the housing.

1 27. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing
2 contains a front panel with an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined
3 surface forming a wider opening at the surface of the front panel.

1 28. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap
2 includes an inclined surface adjacent to the opening, the inclined surface arranged to
3 increase the opening along a front edge of the flap, wherein the front edge is
4 substantially perpendicular to the source-backing surface.

1 29. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap
2 includes a slot.

1 30. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 29, wherein the slot is
2 positioned to permit the placement of a relatively short source document on edge on
3 the channel wherein information to be scanned is aligned with at least a portion of the
4 platen.

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1 31. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing
2 further comprises a recess configured to receive a portion of the channel when the
3 source-backing surface is in close proximity to the source-contact surface.

1 32. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the channel
2 has a first end proximal to a front panel of the housing and a distal end that extends at
3 least to a distal edge of a platen.

1 33. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the flap is
2 coupled to the housing with at least one post assembly having a plurality of spatially-
3 separated detent positions.

1 34. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the housing
2 is configured to extend the channel from the source-contact surface when an operator
3 adjusts the source-backing surface in relation to the source-contact surface to increase
4 the width of the opening.

1 35. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the width of
2 the channel at a first end of the channel proximal to a front panel of the housing
3 increases over that portion of the channel that extends beyond the platen.

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1 36. (Newly Added) The assembly of claim 26, wherein the channel
2 is coated with a material having a relatively low coefficient of friction.

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1 37. (Newly Added) A method for arranging a source in a scanner
2 comprising:
3 inserting a leading edge of a source into an aperture formed by a channel such
4 that a surface of the source having information thereon that is desired to be imaged by
5 the scanner is adjacent to a sensor arranged in a substantially vertical plane; and
6 positionally adjusting the source such that the information desired to be
7 imaged is aligned with the sensor.

1 38. (Newly Added) The method of claim 37, further comprising:
2 inserting a plug into a slot formed in a flap, the flap substantially parallel with
3 a source-contact surface of the scanner; and
4 enabling the sensor to scan the information.